IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK

Applicants

Rolf Müller et al.

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Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

In the above-identified application for United States patent, please amend as follows.

Amendments to the specification are reflected in the attached substitute specification with markings and the clean version.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Abstract begin on Page 10 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on Page 11 of this paper.